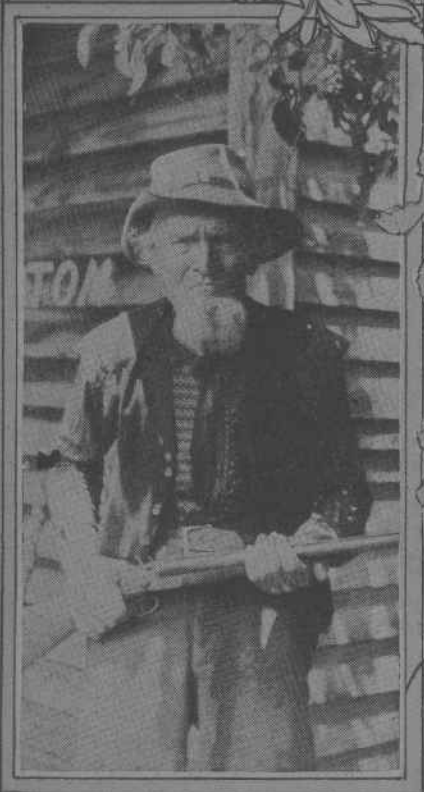


# Mr. Geo. W. Vanderbilt's Hunting Lodge

**BUCK SPRINGS LODGE ABOVE THE CLOUDS ON MOUNT PISGAH, NORTH CAROLINA. THE STORY OF ITS SITE AND ERECTION**



**BIG TOM WILSON MOST FAMOUS HUNTER AND GUIDE IN THE APPALACHIANS**

At an altitude of six thousand feet, near the summit of Mount Pisgah, in the very heart of the Alleghany Mountains, George W. Vanderbilt has installed the best appointed hunting and fishing lodge in America.

The buildings, seven in number, are all, strictly speaking, log cabins. They are constructed on the bungalow style, with broad porches and massive rustic columns. Skilled men selected every stone and timber from the adjacent hills and valleys. The main building, the ladies' dormitory, the dining rooms and kitchen, are all two stories in height, and the aggregate length of all the structures, including barns, is 492 feet. The outside log surface reaches 15,000 square feet, and 10,575 feet of rustic stone surface is exposed to view in the eight big rock chimneys and the foundations.

The stone work consists of twenty-seven hundred tons of native granite boulders, the major part of them put in place with such care that even the natural moss on the outer faces remains undisturbed. These boulders were elevated to the narrow mountain trails by block and tackle, and then hauled along the steep and circuitous mountain pathway on "lizards," the local name for primitive forest sleds, drawn by oxen. The logs for the walls were chosen from trees of uniform diameter, perfectly straight; and to obtain these the forest was searched diligently for miles around. But even greater difficulty was encountered in securing trees from which suitable sections could be cut to make the heavy columns for balconies and porches. These porches and balconies have a total length of one hundred and fifty feet.

## Magnificent Natural Columns

The roofs are supported by heavy wooden trusses resting on these massive natural columns of five feet circumference, sections of magnificent chestnut trees, with bark left on. Some trees purchased just outside the Pisgah forest for thirty cents cost \$10 to be got in place. They were "snaked" down the mountain for two miles, then hauled eight miles on mountain sleds. The first two buildings cost \$24,000.

Every piece of furniture from bedstead to candlestick is of rustic design and finish, and most of it is wrought by the children of the forest on Mr. Vanderbilt's personal order. The interior walls of the rooms have the same picturesque finish that pervades every detail of the establishment, except that the ladies' dormitory is veiled with polished curly maple. The bedrooms are provided with bureaus of native wood, constructed so as to resemble mammoth travelling trunks, with lock, hinges and handles. There are roomy drawers in the sides, and above them on the wall hang mirrors set in frames of the same material. In fact, the lodge furnishes to Mr. Vanderbilt and his friends, whom he frequently invites, all the comforts and conveniences of a city hotel. A perfect system of plumbing supplies baths of several kinds, and complete toilet arrangements are installed. For drinking, the sweetest mountain spring water is piped thirty-five hundred feet and forced up an elevation of two hundred and eighty-six feet by a small hydraulic ram.

The dining room, 25x35 feet, is provided with a fireplace twelve feet wide, outside measurement. Three folding glass doors open on a porch twenty feet deep and thirty-five feet in width. There are also triple windows at each end of the room. There are no pictures, but three hundred beautifully tanned skins of wild animals, feathers, wings, claws and stuffed birds are among the decorations.

The sitting room in the main building is thirty feet square. The big fireplace and hearth measure eighteen feet across, with walls four and a half feet thick. An old fashioned cooking crane, wrought iron pot hooks and rack, fire poker, pots and kettles add to its antique appearance. Andirons, representing couchant bucks, with broad antlers, carry a cord of wood at one fire, ample fuel to heat comfortably and cheerfully the entire apartment on the coldest night. Five hundred beautiful pelts, representing bear, deer, catamount, fox squirrel, birds and reptiles, adorn every side of the room and overhead. These are trophies of hunts in the Pisgah forest. Every conceivable design of curious rustic tables, chairs, settees, lounges and a big block on which to



**OLD WATER MILL AT FOOT OF PISGAH**



**FRONT VIEW OCTAGON PORCH PROJECTING OVER PRECIPICE 1500 FEET IN DEPTH FROM THIS PORCH THE MOVING STREET CARS IN ASHVILLE 32 MILES DISTANT CAN BE SEEN AT NIGHT.**

crack walnuts, are scattered conveniently about.

Over the door in a rack is an old hunting rifle, pouches, horns and hunting knapsack. Opposite the fireplace is a charming little library. The bedrooms of Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt open into this sitting room by a door on the right of the chimney, while two guest chambers are located on the opposite side of the rooms.

## How the Lodge Site Was Discovered.

Silence of a knob of the Appalachians nestling among the mountains caught the fancy of George W. Vanderbilt as he sat on a Battery Park balcony. The outcome of that morning's dream has been the creation of an estate the envy and admiration of the world—the most magnificent chateau in America, the best equipped agricultural farm on the continent, and a model village, Biltmore.

Twenty-two miles from Asheville and Biltmore village, clearly defined against the southern sky, is Mount Pisgah, rising above the surrounding hills, attaining an altitude of nearly 6,000 feet and commanding one of the finest views of mountains, valleys and rivers in this country. A wealth of mountain mahogany, chestnut, hemlock, and white pine grows everywhere except on the summit, which is clad in a luxuriant growth of rhododendron. The forests are virgin, save here and there a small denuded spot where some squatter has, in some past time, pitched his cabin. The woods abound in game and the waters teem with mountain trout, unsalable by government hatcheries.

Mr. Vanderbilt heard these accounts of these goodly lands and his soul longed to possess them. He explored the wilds of the hills and valleys afoot and on horseback. He sat for hours on the ledge of rock at the base of Little Pisgah, which is styled "the rat," from the suggestive contour of the projection near the top of Pisgah proper. His feet dangled over the precipice of 1,700 feet. Just below him were the headwaters of Big Creek valley, which widens and merges into the French Broad valley. In the distance the serpentine river shimmering and sparkling makes its way between the hills; on either side of the valley the mountain sides are clad in rich verdure and luxuriance of balsam and laurel.

water flows into the Atlantic through the Carolina rivers; on the other through the French Broad into the Father of Waters. "Here," said he, "I find marvellous scenic beauty, salubrious atmosphere, good water; in the valleys and mountains are game and fish in abundance, I am told. The site is chosen; I will establish my hunting and fishing quarters here. I will build a lodge for myself and friends in which nothing shall be lacking that may conduce to comfort or pleasure."

It is planned by Mr. Vanderbilt to install another lodge during the next twelve months—at Looking Glass Mountain—to be devoted especially, though not entirely, to fishing parties. Looking Glass Mountain is easier of access from much of the five fishing waters. This name is given from the fact that a thin, broad stream of water trickles over the smooth side of the mountain, and when the sun shines upon it one is reminded of a stippling mirror. It is said that the cost of Looking Glass Lodge will probably be \$35,000 or more.

## Thoughts of Life.

If women were not by nature addicted to games of chance there would be fewer marriages.

We all start on life's journey wrapped in the travelling rug of self-esteem, but it is soon torn aside by shafts of criticism.

It is the woman who looks youthful without the aid of cosmetics who is not afraid to tell her age.

It is best to remember that life is not written in lead pencil and erasing may not be done until after the account has been rendered to the Master.

## MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.

### WHAT WOMEN OF AMERICA THINK OF PE-RU-NA

Women of Letters, of Social Fame, the Club Woman and the Housewife.



Miss Tillie Kretz, a beautiful society girl of Brooklyn, Wis., in a recent letter to Dr. Hartman writes:—

"It is with great pleasure I endorse Peruna. Close study and steady confinement induce a wear and tear on the nervous system, and at such times I have found nothing restores quicker and better than Peruna. I have tried it for the past three years, and found it all that it claims to be. It restored my system in a short space of time, and is certainly better than anything the doctors ever prescribed for me. I have the utmost faith in its power to cure."

Mrs. W. B. Krause, of Wisconsin. Mrs. W. B. Krause, wife of the publisher of the Port Washington Herald, writes from Port Washington, Wis.:—

"Peruna has cured my catarrh and the suffering which I had in my back and bearing down pains. I am very thankful for Peruna, as it has cured me where other medicines have failed. I always will speak a good word for Peruna."—Mrs. W. B. Krause.

Miss Prescott, of Minnesota. Miss Anna Prescott, in a letter from 210 South Seventh street, Minneapolis, Minn., writes:—

"I am sincerely grateful for the relief I have found from the use of Peruna. I was completely used up last fall, my appetite had failed and I was unable to do anything. I tried many remedies but to my surprise, the relief I experienced after taking one bottle was truly wonderful. It continued its use for five weeks, and am glad to say that my complete restoration to health was a surprise to myself as well as to my friends."—Anna Prescott.

Miss Murphy, of Washington. Miss Florence Murphy, 2,703 3d av., Seattle, Wash., writes:—

"I suffered for over a year with female trouble, and although I tried several physicians, none of them seemed to be able to help me permanently. We have used Peruna in our home for a good many years and all have a great deal of faith in it, but had never used it for my trouble; in fact, I did not know that it was good for female ills until a friend told me that she had used it and was well. It only took a little over three bottles to make me well and strong. I never have headache, backache or bearing-down pains any more."—Miss Florence Murphy.

Mrs. A. M. Brazile, of Minn. Mrs. A. M. Brazile, president St. Paul Woman's Study Club and secretary of the Independent Order of Good Templars, writes:—

"It seems due to you that I should write and tell you how much I appreciate the great good Peruna

has done me. If you had seen me a year ago, a worn out, broken down woman, and then see me today, in perfect health, feeling cheerful and happy, you would not wonder that I am so grateful to you."

"I had been in delicate health for several years, was unable to stand any exertion whatever and had continual backache and bearing down pains. The slightest cold would aggravate the trouble, and I looked on myself as a confirmed invalid until one of our club women told me how Peruna restored her to perfect health. I began taking it the first week in October, and Thanksgiving Day I truly celebrated and gave thanks for restored health and usefulness."—Mrs. Brazile.

A constant drain of nervous vitality, depleting the whole nervous system, causes the mucous membrane surfaces to suffer accordingly. This is the condition called systemic catarrh. It very nearly resembles, and there is really no practical difference between this condition and the condition known as neurasthenia, or nervous prostration.

Peruna will be found to effect an immediate and lasting cure in all cases of systemic catarrh. It acts quickly and beneficially on the diseased mucous membranes, and with healthy mucous membranes the catarrh can no longer exist.

Miss Mary Ratz, of New York. Miss Mary Ratz writes from Brooklyn, N. Y., 512 7th av.:—

"Peruna is a blessing to suffering women, and I am pleased to recommend it. I suffered for over a year with backache, headache and nervous debility, and although I tried many remedies Peruna is the medicine that cured. I am now in perfect health, and am very grateful to you."—Mary Ratz.

Mrs. Clara Makemer, of Illinois. Mrs. Clara Makemer, housekeeper for the Florence Critchenden Anchorage Mission, writes from 302 Chestnut st., Chicago, Ill., as follows:—

"After repeated use of Peruna and carefully noting the results, I can only speak of its medicinal value in the highest terms. I have used it in cases of female irregularities and weak nervous system to the sex, and have found it most satisfactory. Peruna deserves the confidence of all."—Clara Makemer.

A great proportion of women have some catarrhal weakness which has been called by the various doctors she has consulted by as many different names. These women have been treated and have taken medicines with no relief simply because the remedies are not adapted to catarrh.

Dr. S. B. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, Ohio, a prominent authority on women's catarrhal diseases, will take charge of as many cases of female catarrh as make application to him during the summer months. Advice free. Address Dr. S. B. Hartman, Columbus, Ohio.

Mrs. Ida Proctor, of New York. Mrs. Ida Proctor, president Brooklyn Woman's Century Club, writes from 45 Hoyt st., Brooklyn, N. Y.:—

"Two years ago my health was entirely broken down from social cares and responsibilities and I felt that I was going to be very ill. As Peruna had been used by other members of the family with good results, I thought best to give it a trial before putting myself in the care of a physician, and was glad that I did so, for the use of four bottles restored my strength and vitality, and a dose once or twice a month keeps me in excellent health."—Mrs. Ida Proctor.

Miss Coats, of Appleton. Miss Marie Coats, of Appleton, Wis., writes:—

"I find Peruna an excellent spring and summer medicine, and am glad to call the attention of my friends to it. When that languid, tired feeling comes over you and your food no longer tastes good, and small annoyances worry you, Peruna will make you feel like another person inside a week."—Marie Coats.

Minnie Lee Collins, of Tennessee. Mrs. Minnie Lee Collins, grandniece of the late President James K. Polk, writes from 312 High street, Nashville, Tenn.:—

"For several years I experienced a severe attack of female trouble. The best physicians prescribed for me, but without avail. Two years ago I began to take Peruna at the advice of a friend. I noticed a perceptible improvement at once, after taking several bottles I was cured. I hold Peruna in high esteem, and am always ready to say a good word for it."—Minnie Lee Collins.

If all the tired women and all the nervous women and all the women that need a tonic would read and heed the words of these ladies, who have spoken right to the point, how many invalids would be prevented and how many wretched lives be made happy.

Peruna restores health in a normal way. Peruna puts right all the mucous membranes of the body, and in this way restores the functions of every organ.

If it is the stomach that is out of order and the digestion impaired, Peruna quickly makes things right by restoring the mucous membrane of the stomach.

The pelvic organs are also lined with mucous membrane, which the female sex is especially liable to derangements. Peruna is an absolute specific in these cases.

Mrs. Hannah L. Lapish, Treasurer of the Utah State Council of Women, also President of the Woman's Suffrage Association of Utah, in a letter from 273 Second st., Salt Lake City, Utah, writes:—

"Several times during the past three years my nervous system was entirely run down and had it not been for Peruna I should have been prostrated. It was of great benefit to me, and I think has strengthened my system."

"I do take a little Peruna and soon am restored. I know a great many people who have used it and always with favorable results. I consider it especially valuable for all diseases peculiar to women."

Yours truly, HANNAH L. LAPISH.